



# REVIEWS

## BOOKS

Reviewed by Ruth Parnell

### BEHAVIOURAL PROBLEMS IN CHILDHOOD: Link to Vaccination by Viera Scheibner, PhD

Publisher: Dr V. Scheibner, Aust, 2000  
ISBN: 0-9578007-0-3 (287pp tpb)  
Price: AUD\$30.00; NZD\$49.00;  
STG£15.00

Sources: **Australia**—Taycare, tel (02) 9144 6625, e-mail taycare@byronit.com;

**Aust/NZ/UK**—NEXUS offices

The increasing prevalence of neurological and behavioural disorders in children is due to vaccinations, argues Viera Scheibner, PhD. These have become worse in recent years with the vaccination of much younger children with increasingly toxic vaccine (and antibiotic) cocktails against diseases which actually boost natural immunity.

Since the 1993 publication of her first book, *Vaccination*, Dr Scheibner, a retired principal research scientist, has become a vocal anti-vaccination activist who has lectured in Australia and the UK and appeared as an expert witness in court cases. For her new book, *Behavioural Problems in Childhood*, she has assembled some disturbing medical data and identified a number of categories of disorders which are directly linked with vaccination regimens: disorders of motor, sensory and perceptual systems, of arousal, attention (e.g., ADD, ADHD), cognition and memory, of language and learning, drive, affect and socialisation, and of behaviour. These disorders are not generally recognised as being linked to vaccines. Fortunately, some medical professionals are now making a stand, e.g., over the MMR

vaccine link with autism and bowel disease (see deBriefings, NEXUS 7/04).

Dr Scheibner maintains that "vaccines are mind-altering toxic substances which can lead to addictions and criminality", and worries about the future of society when this overvaccinated and overmedicated generation comes of age. By being aware of this wealth of medical research linking behavioural problems and vaccination, parents can at least make a more informed choice about vaccination—or understand why their vaccinated children are behaving so erratically.

### THE PSYCHIC BATTLEFIELD

by W. Adam Mandelbaum

Publisher: Vision Paperbacks, UK, 2000  
ISBN: 1-9012-5046-6 (278pp tpb)

Price: £9.99 + £2.50 p&h in UK; o/s p&h, contact publisher; NLGf38,90; USD\$/n/a

Sources: **UK**—Satin Publications, tel 020 7323 9757, fax 020 7323 9749,

e-mail sheenadewan@compuserve.com;

TBS Ltd, tel 01206 255637; **Europe**—

NEXUS Office, tel +31 321 380558;

**USA**—St Martin's Press, tel (212) 674 5151

For as long as there have been war and diplomacy, there has existed an interweaving of the martial and the magical arts, says W. Adam Mandelbaum in *The Psychic Battlefield*. This makes the CIA's 1995 admission that it places no credence in psychic spying sheer disinformation. The US military/intelligence apparatus would never have put millions of dollars towards remote viewing as an intelligence-gathering tool had it seen no value in it. The Russians, who were taking psychic spying seriously, were giving them a run for their money.

Mandelbaum reminds us that military people are charged with seeking out and utilis-

ing any techniques that might give them the edge, but he does consider the moral stance in all this. He has coined a new expression, "the military-occult complex", to define the latter-day melding of this age-old symbiotic relationship. There's really not much qualitative difference between the warrior-wizard, the spy-sorcerer, the soldier-superman through the ages—whether in ancient India and Egypt, where astral battles were fought; in the Crusades, where the military used the supernatural; in Tudor England, where Elizabeth I received psychic military advice from John Dee; or in today's high-tech PsyWar era. A former intelligence officer based at Fort Meade, Mandelbaum did not participate in the RV program there but he knows many who did and has been investigating the paranormal and occult for years.

In this thoughtful exposé, Mandelbaum leaves us in no doubt that the future of warfare and espionage is the mind, particularly as remote viewing has been shown to work.



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### DOOMSDAY: The Science of Catastrophic Events

by Antony Milne

Publisher: Praeger Publishers, USA, 2000  
ISBN: 0-275-96747-6 (198pp hc)  
Price: £52.50; USD\$55.00 + p&h;  
NLGf149,90

Sources: **UK**—Eurospan, tel 020 7240 0856; **Europe**—NEXUS Office, tel +31 321 380558; ; **USA**—Praeger, tel (203) 226 3571, website www.praeger.com

Catastrophism was once the mainstay of 18th-century geologists steeped in biblical tradition centred on the Great Flood. And as British science writer Antony Milne shows in his eighth book, *Doomsday*, the competing theory, uniformitarianism, can hardly stand up in the face of modern scientific knowledge of the Big Bang, black holes, or comet and asteroid impacts. The study of catastrophic events is now relevant in disciplines as diverse as anthropology, biology, climatology, mathematics, physics, palaeontology as well as geology.

Without getting unduly carried away by "end of the world is nigh" hype, Milne explains that catastrophes are an intrinsic part of the Earth's history, and some of them are recorded in ancient texts and oral traditions around the globe. He looks at the latest research into mass extinctions, massive floods, ice ages, seismic and volcanic events, solar and cosmic physics as well as statistics showing that natural disasters are on the increase globally. He also highlights evidence suggesting that recent climatic changes are precursors of an ice age, or at

least a mini ice-age to beset the planet within 100 years, and are not descriptive of a global warming trend. As an associate member of Spaceguard UK, Milne has a particular interest in near-Earth asteroids, so he devotes space to this study and the latest mathematical models that utilise complexity theory, probability theory and risk analysis to determine the chances and effects of a "doomsday missile" striking the planet.

Milne brings a well-balanced, rational approach to his highly readable examination of catastrophe science, and he is pragmatic in his warnings about future disasters.

### WHEN THE GODS CAME DOWN by Alan Alford

Publisher: Hodder & Stoughton, 2000  
ISBN: 0-340-69616-8 (484pp hc)  
Price: AUD\$54.75; NZD\$69.95; £20.00;  
NLGf78,90

Sources: **Aust**—Hodder Headline; **NZ**—Hodder Moa Beckett; **UK**—Hodder & Stoughton, tel 020 7873 6000; **Europe**—NEXUS Office, tel +31 321 380558

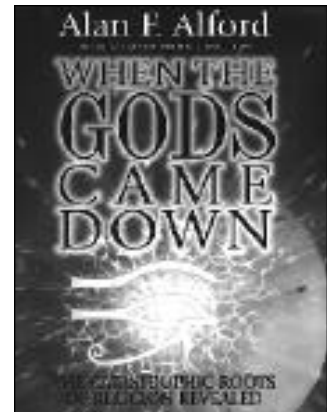
At the core of ancient mythologies and religions lies an esoteric truth that's been withheld from the masses through the ages, says Alan Alford in *When the Gods Came Down*. His hypothesis is that this truth originally described the explosion of a planet in our solar system between Mars and Jupiter, which caused a catastrophic raining down of meteorites to Earth. The explosion came to be interpreted as God or Heaven seeding the Earth with life.

The Sumerians may have recorded this event on their stone tablets, but the creation and heroic myths and religions that derived from them were embellishments designed for popular consumption, the whole truth

reserved only for adepts in the mysteries. Thus, Alford says, the Assyrian, Egyptian, Babylonian, Greek, Hebrew and Christian religious traditions all stemmed from this ancient knowledge but perpetrated only half-truths. The story of Jesus, the Son (Seed) of Man, was a rewrite of this catastrophe and was re-enacted in his day as an esoteric passion play, Alford maintains.

These traditional cover-ups are no longer good enough for today's educated, rational, curious minds that want to unlock the keys and get to the facts. Alford laments that mainstream science today is still too slow to acknowledge alternative catastrophe theories, e.g., that of astronomer Tom van Flandern, whose observations have led him to conclude that the asteroid belt is the result of a planetary explosion, or possibly a collision between two planetary bodies.

By analysing the ancient texts with a fresh approach, Alford explodes the myths that are intrinsic to religious beliefs. His thesis deserves attention, but be warned: you'll never look at religion the same way again.





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### ADVERTISING AND THE MIND OF THE CONSUMER: What Works, What Doesn't, and Why

by Max Sutherland & Alice Sylvester

Publisher: Allen & Unwin, Australia, 2000 (2nd rev. ed.; 1st published 1993)

ISBN: 1-86508-231-7 (326pp tpb)

Price: AUD\$38.43; NZD\$45.00

Sources: **Aust**—Allen & Unwin, tel (02) 8425 0100, e-mail [frontdesk@allen-unwin.com.au](mailto:frontdesk@allen-unwin.com.au); **NZ**—Archetype Book Agents, tel (09) 377 3800

Like it or not, advertising is a powerful phenomenon in society. But rather than dwell on notions of mass mind manipulation, the authors of *Advertising and the Mind of the Consumer* analyse the subtleties and complexities of advertising (print, TV and radio) against new scientific research into memory and behaviour.

The fact is, people aren't compelled to go out and buy every product they see advertised, even if it's something they need. So what ads work, what ads don't and why? Advertising must be doing something to someone, but what, how and to whom? The answers are still all too elusive—incredible, considering that around US\$400 billion is spent on advertising annually around the world—but authors Max Sutherland and Alice Sylvester succeed in demystifying the subject and the myths behind it. Sutherland is a psychologist and advertising/marketing researcher who works in the US and Australia, and Sylvester is a high-profile US ad agency research/planning director and consultant. Both have spent time tracking

the effectiveness of ad campaigns.

This newly revised edition of their 1993 book includes more visuals from international ad campaigns plus new chapters on humorous ads (entertainment value vs brand recall), ad awareness measurement, and website advertising—a medium which upends many of the usual design rules. This book is aimed at ad designers, marketers and business people with products to sell, but has particular appeal for students of consumer psychology and the media.

### ELECTRICAL NUTRITION

by Denie and Shelley Hiestand

Publisher: ShellDen Publishing, Bellevue, Washington, USA, 1999

ISBN: 0-9684928-1-9 (192pp tpb)

Price: USD\$14.95 + p&h; NLGf38,90

Sources: **USA**—ShellDen Publishing, tel 1800 207 2239 (toll free in US), (403) 314 2045, fax (917) 464 8128, e-mail [info@vibrationalmedicine.com](mailto:info@vibrationalmedicine.com), website [www.vibrationalmedicine.com](http://www.vibrationalmedicine.com); **Europe**—NEXUS Office, tel +31 321 380558

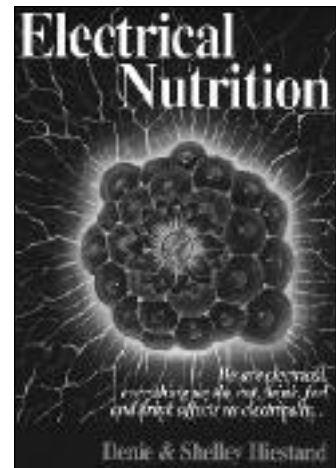
From an electrical nutrition viewpoint, the higher the vibration of the foods we eat, the greater the life force available to us. So say vibrational medicine practitioners Denie and Shelley Hiestand, US-based New Zealanders, in *Electrical Nutrition*.

Everything is energy and has an electrical matrix; so the more tampered-with a food is, the more ineffective it will be as an energy source. The authors summarise the processes involved in digestion and energy absorption, and ultimately these aren't chemical but electrical. In what will be seen as an affront to vegetarian beliefs, the authors conclude that animal flesh is the food with the highest vibratory rate and the greatest amount of life

force. Vegetation is seen as two steps lower on the life-force scale.

According to the authors' studies: protein is king (but should never be combined with carbohydrates); vegetables are largely underutilised (accessing cell-level nutrition requires proper chewing of raw veges); grains (particularly whole) are an electrical drain digestion-wise; fruit is the ideal breakfast (but only on its own); tofu is a total no-no, as are all processed foods as they are denatured and tend to be laden with excitotoxins (e.g., aspartame). This advice seems to confirm what the advocates of correct food combining have been saying all along!

Hopefully the authors will expand their arguments with further scientific backup in a follow-up book. Meantime, this one serves as an intriguing introduction, giving actionable advice for achieving vibrant health (and these authors certainly look glowing!). It may well completely overturn your views on what constitutes good diet.



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### DEEP TIME: Cladistics, The Revolution in Evolution

by Henry Gee

Publisher: Fourth Estate, UK, 2000

ISBN: 1-85702-986-0 (262pp hc)

Price: AUD\$55.00; NZD\$70.00; £20.00; NLGf78,90

Sources: **Aust**—Allen & Unwin, tel (02) 8425 0100; **NZ**—Archetype, tel (09) 377 3800; **UK**—Fourth Estate, tel 020 7727 8993, website [www.4thestate.co.uk](http://www.4thestate.co.uk); **Eur**—NEXUS Office, tel +31 321 380558

The term "deep time" was coined to distinguish geological time from the everyday scale of time and is meant to refer to immense intervals. Author Henry Gee, PhD, a senior editor at *Nature*, argues that to discuss time gaps of millions of years as if they were mere weeks or days in the geological time scale is absurd and unscientific. This attitude has coloured how we think about evolution. Our need for a neat historical narrative or drama which makes deep time comprehensible has led us to make false assumptions about time lines, cause-effect relationships, ancestry and descent.

Dr Gee is a proponent of cladistics, a system that looks at the pattern of the history of life, free from such assumptions and able to be tested. Cladistics has been gaining much favour among palaeontologists over the last 30 years, Gee writes in *Deep Time*, and the trend is at odds with the popular line pushed in the mass media. Rather than consider evolution in a linear way, cladistics looks to find the most likely way in which a set of organisms is related to one another.

Using branching diagrams called "cladograms", there is more than one way of working out how two organisms are linked. By considering choices, e.g., fish that developed legs to crawl ashore and fish that grew legs but stayed underwater, surprising new evolutionary possibilities are uncovered, and they don't necessarily follow the linear path of development. Gee says that cladistics can't provide rock-solid answers, but he shows how it is overturning our understanding about the life that's existed on this planet over the aeons and the place and progress of *Homo sapiens* in the vast picture.

### TECHNOLOGY OF THE GODS: The Incredible Sciences of the Ancients

by David Hatcher Childress

Publisher: Adventures Unlimited, 2000

ISBN: 0-932813-73-9 (343pp tpb)

Price: AUD\$33.00; NZD\$34.90; £15.00;

NLGf44,90; USD\$16.95 + p&h

Sources: **Australia/NZ/UK/Europe**—NEXUS offices; **USA**—Adventures Unlimited, tel (815) 253 6390

There is abundant evidence that ancient civilisations possessed varying degrees of advanced science and high technology. In *Technology of the Gods*, David Hatcher Childress examines the artefacts of long-gone civilisations and considers their origins in the light of published commentaries, peppering them with his own speculation plus plentiful photographs and illustrations.

Some of the inventions described are relatively recent, e.g., the Antikythera device, a Greek astronomical calculator dated to the first century BC; some are several thousand years old, e.g., the Baghdad battery and crystal lenses; and others are much more ancient, such as the baffling metal spheres

found in 2.8 billion-year-old strata in Africa.

Such artefacts suggest that the civilisations from which they sprang were far more inventive than generally acknowledged—though they don't necessarily prove that "the gods" were responsible. The "cyclopean" architecture, with a precision placement of weighty stones that is duplicated in places as far distant as northern Greece and Peru, still defies explanation. As for tapping energy, it's possible that the Ark of the Covenant was a free energy device and that the Great Pyramid a gigantic power plant. Even aviation and is not a modern invention, for India's Rama Empire had flying machines in antiquity and possibly engaged in atomic war with the Atlantean Empire, as the sacred texts and geological evidence suggest (see article extract this issue).

Is history merely repeating itself, as Childress proposes, and did past civilisations shine, only to extinguish themselves in their own self-made catastrophes?





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### LES SENTIERS DES DIEUX/ PATHWAYS OF THE GODS Volume 1 by Neil Hudson Newman

Publisher: Garth Books, UK, 2000  
ISBN: 1-903299-00-4 (170pp l/f pb)  
Price: £16.76 inc. p&h; NLG£64,90  
Source: **UK**—Garth Books, 649 Oxford Road, Reading, RG30 1HP, tel 01189 508883, e-mail garthbooks@ic24.net

Analyses of France's Rennes-le-Château mystery do take much time and patience to delve through, and this work, *Les Sentiers des Dieux/Pathways of the Gods*, is no exception in this regard, though it does offer rewards for the true seeker.

This first volume by Neil Hudson Newman lays the groundwork in terms of sacred geometry, ancient systems of measurement, landscape mathematics and artefact deciphering, with the promise that the key to the mystery—perhaps the location of the famed buried treasure that Abbé Bérenger Saunière is believed to have stumbled upon—will be unlocked in the follow-up volume. We may have to wait a while for Newman's solution, but he presents many clues here which are original yet have resonance with works by Henry Lincoln, David Wood and other modern-day Rennes-le-Château researchers.

To simplify, Newman asks us to consider the expression of the angle  $\sin^{-1}0.681$  as embodied within the Marie de Blanchefort gravestone text and two parchments supposedly discovered by Saunière, as well as the siting of the Tour Magdala in Rennes-le-Château and its angular relationship of  $42.9218...^\circ$  North to a proximate line of latitude. He identifies a "point X" on a cliff

face—an intersection between the tower and an oratory in nearby Granès—that may contain the "tomb" which Saunière (1852–1917) had written about in his journal.

Apart from inspiring us with thoughts of treasure hunts, Newman hints at a much larger mathematics—geometric pathways that take in planetary dimensions, which he believes were understood by the inhabitants of the land at least 4,000 years ago.

### WEB OF GOLD

#### by Guy Patton and Robin Mackness

Publisher: Sidgwick & Jackson, UK, 2000  
ISBN: 0-283-06344-0 (348pp hc);  
0-333-78321-2 (tpb)

Price: AUD\$54.84 (hc), \$30.70 (tpb);

NZD\$57.95 (hc), \$34.95 (tpb); £17.99

(hc); USD\$38.00 inc. p&h; NLG£70,90

Sources: **Aust/NZ/UK**—Pan Macmillan;

**USA**—NEXUS UK Office, tel +44 1342

322854, e-mail nexus@ukoffice.u-net.

com; **Europe**—NEXUS Office, tel +31 321

380558, e-mail info@fsf.nl

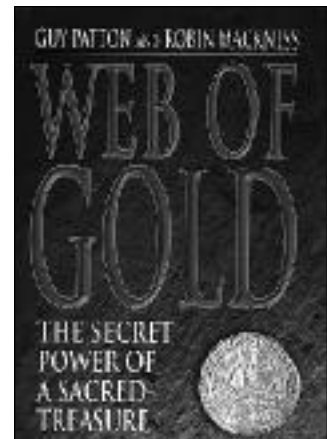
This is a tale of intrigue that has its beginnings with the sacking of the Temple of Jerusalem in AD 70 and continues through to today. *Web of Gold* is the story of a vast conspiratorial treasure-hunt for the fabulous wealth of the Jews, supposed to have been taken from Jerusalem, then Rome and to southern France by the Knights Templars during the First Crusade.

It examines the battles that are being fought between groups representing political, commercial and religious interests and the complex interplays between secret societies that are often at the heart of international intrigue. One of the key battles is being fought over the Rennes-le-Château mystery, popularised in the 1982 best-seller

### *The Holy Blood and The Holy Grail.*

The authors began collaborating in 1996, after Guy Patton read Robin Mackness's book about the Nazi massacre at Oradour in the Pyrénées in 1944. Patton, who has been studying the Rennes-le-Château mystery for years, was able to shed more light on the occult significance of the Nazis' search for gold in that area. The web becomes more complex with the activities of the French secret society—the Priory of Sion—and its alleged support of Mitterand's campaign and his subsequent rise to power as President of France; its involvement with the Vatican's right-wing intelligence arm, Opus Dei; its shady dealings with the financial institutions of the Vatican and Switzerland; and its associations with other occult power groupings such as the Freemasons, Rosicrucians, Solar Templars and the Italian P2 fascists.

The story is still panning itself out on the world stage while the treasure remains hidden, but the authors have pulled together strands coming from unexpected places.



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### FATHER ERNETTI'S CHRONOVISOR by Peter Krassa

Publisher: New Paradigm, USA, 2000  
ISBN: 1-892138-02-6 (214pp tpb)  
Price: AUD\$37.35; £13.99; USD\$16.95;  
Sources: **Aust**—Banyan Tree Book  
Distributors, tel (08) 8363 4244; **UK**—  
Gazelle Book Service, tel 01524 68765;  
**Eur**—NEXUS Office, tel +31 321 380558;  
**USA**—New Paradigm Books, tel (561) 482  
5971, website [www.newpara.com](http://www.newpara.com)

Everything about the life of Father Pellegrino Ernetti suggests that this Italian Benedictine priest-scientist was a man of integrity and would not have created a hoax about his work on the chronovisor—a camera that allegedly could tune into the past or future and take pictures.

Venice-based Father Ernetti (1925–1994) was an authority on archaic music, a scholar in Greek and Latin, a sought-after exorcist, a confidant of the influential, and an object of questioning by the Vatican and NASA. His work on the so-called chronovisor stemmed from his time at Father Gemelli's electro-acoustical laboratory at the Catholic University in Milan from 1952. So writes Peter Krassa in his fascinating exposé of Father Ernetti's life and work, translated from German and now expanded with supporting documents—such as the translation of the lost Latin classic, Ennius's *Thyestes*, supposedly retrieved via the chronovisor.

Krassa draws on commentaries from associates of Ernetti, some of them priest-parapsychologists who were excited that he may have found a way to tap the elusive akashic records. Apparently the chronovisor (if it

ever existed) was dismantled, its capacity for misuse too great to justify continued experimentation. Fr Ernetti went very quiet in the last decade of his life (by choice or force?), but, in late 1993, he and two surviving scientists from the project presented their findings at the Vatican before four cardinals and a scientific committee. What transpired has not been divulged.

### UFO FBI CONNECTION: The Secret History of the Government's Cover-up by Bruce Maccabee, PhD

Publisher: Llewellyn, USA, 2000  
ISBN: 1-56718-493-6 (311pp tpb)  
Price: AUD\$32.95; NZD\$46.95; £11.99;  
NLGf38,90; USD\$14.95; CAD\$22.95  
Sources: **Aust**—Banyan Tree, tel (08)  
8363 4244; **NZ**—NEXUS Office, tel (09)  
405 1963; **UK**—Airlift Book Co., tel 020  
8804 0400; **Europe**—NEXUS Office, tel  
+31 321 380558; **USA**—Llewellyn, tel  
(651) 291 1970, [www.llewellyn.com](http://www.llewellyn.com)

Documents obtained by Dr Bruce Maccabee under the FOIA at last confirm that the FBI *did* take flying saucer sightings seriously enough to investigate them. Curiously, they also confirm that such FBI reports were filed under "Flying Discs: Security Matter – X"; in other words, the real-life "X-files"!

Bruce Maccabee, PhD, is an optical physicist who works for the US Navy and has been investigating UFO sightings for decades, accumulating many once-secret files from various military and intelligence organisations over the years. He is also well known on the UFO conference circuit.

For *UFO FBI Connection*, his second book, Dr Maccabee quotes highlights and

details from the approx. 1,600 pages of FBI documents, covering sightings in the 1947–1964 period, and interweaves them with historical context, his own commentary and supporting material from Air Force, Army CIC and CIA files. The result is a well-flowing account with fascinating case studies and asides (many from other UFO researchers). These documents not only disprove the FBI's public stance but speak volumes about the high-level official UFO cover-up, how it was instigated and how it's been maintained. They are also revealing for what they show of the complex interactions between the Air Force's intelligence apparatus, the FBI and other agencies over the nature of the UFO phenomenon.

Because these documents are now accessible on the Net ([www.fbi.gov](http://www.fbi.gov)), only a couple of facsimiles are reproduced here—but this is no reason to bypass Maccabee's book for the background illumination it gives.





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### ANCIENT CELTIC NEW ZEALAND

by Martin Doutré

Publisher: Dé Danann, NZ, 1999

ISBN: 0-473-05367-5 (288pp l/f hc)

Price: NZD\$74.95 (book or CD-ROM) +

\$5.95 p&h in NZ; airmail NZD\$15.00 to

Australia, NZD\$26.00 to USA/Canada &

East Asia; NZD\$29.00 to UK/Europe

Sources: **New Zealand**—Dé Danann

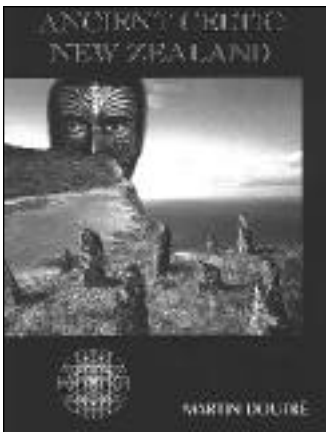
Publishers, PO Box 300111, Albany,

Auckland, e-mail doutré@ihug.co.nz,

website www.celticnz.co.nz; NEXUS

Office, tel (09) 405 1963

New Zealand-raised, US-born Martin Doutré has been an amateur archaeo-astronomer since the 1970s and has carried out extensive surveys of mysterious stone alignments, structures and artefacts that can be found all over New Zealand. He is among a growing band of "dissident" alternative thinkers who are seeking to overturn the prevailing orthodoxy concerning the peoples who preceded the Maori.



It's disturbing that discoveries such as the ones featured in Doutré's book, *Ancient Celtic New Zealand*, keep getting short shrift from academia and groups like the Department of Conservation who, Doutré believes, are taking the politically correct line. He points out that these anomalous sites and artefacts which pre-date Maori settlements are under the custodianship of the Maori, even though ancient remains of Indo-Europeans and even giants have been found, but he concedes that "many spiritually motivated Maori wish to acknowledge the more ancient ancestors", as do many New Zealanders of European descent.

One site, a large area on the tip of the North Island, incorporates a series of astronomical observatories and stone markers across the hills which, when plotted and calculated, describe the rising of Venus in the Hyades constellation in 2225 BC. The 36

hills of Auckland bear marks of sculpting for the purpose of surveying the passing firmament. Moreover, there are geometric similarities between these sites and the megalithic sites of Britain and Europe, even the Great Pyramid. Doutré explains these relationships at length, both mathematically and graphically. He also traces Maori symbols and motifs to Celtic antecedents.

A challenging book that will turn heads.

### THE KEYS TO AVALON

by Steve Blake and Scott Lloyd

Publisher: Element Books, UK/USA, 2000

ISBN: 1-86204-735-9 (303pp hc);

1-86204-723-5 (tpb)

Price: AUD\$50.00, AUD\$30.00 (tpb);

NZD\$49.95 (tpb); £18.99; NLGƒ71,90;

USD\$29.95; CAD\$42.00

Sources: **Aust**—Penguin, tel (03) 9871

2400; **NZ**—NEXUS Office, tel (09) 405

1963; **UK**—Element, tel 01747 851339;

**Eur**—NEXUS Office, tel +31 321 380558;

**USA**—Element Books, tel (617) 248 9494

In *The Keys to Avalon*, Steve Blake and Scott Lloyd set the record straight on the legendary 6th-century King Arthur, his birthplace, the boundaries of his kingdom and the place of his burial. He was certainly an historical figure, but any association he had with Cornwall or Winchester or Glastonbury is fictitious. His kingdom was in North Wales and extended east to the Marches that make up Cheshire, Shropshire and Herefordshire counties today.

According to the authors, much of what's been passed down to us as Arthurian history is based on a mistranslation and partial fabrication first perpetrated by Geoffrey of Monmouth on behalf of his patron Robert, Earl of Gloucester. In 1136, he acquired a Welsh book which he translated into Latin as *The History of the Kings of Britain*; it chronicles, in part, the life of Arthur. But the "Britannia" reference was actually a name for Wales, and the "Isle" of Avalon that's described therein was not an island but a "realm"—in this case in North Wales.

Blake and Lloyd had to find sources which pre-dated this 12th century *Historia* if they were to uncover the truth, so they set out to track down long-forgotten early mediaeval Welsh texts. After painstaking research, they were able to account for names of historical figures and places within the landscape of 6th-century Wales. Here they support their findings with maps and photographs which pinpoint locations of everything from Arthur's court to the scenes of his battles and his final resting place.

Their fascinating narrative is rich in historical and cultural context and is refreshing for its asides which show how history is so readily manipulated by those who write it.

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## VIDEOS

Reviewed by Duncan Roads

### NEXUS CONFERENCE 2000

Producer: E & E Productions, Australia  
Distributors (videos, PAL or NTSC, 90mins; audiotapes available on request):  
**Australia**—AUD\$35.00 (video), \$17.00 (audio), inc. GST + p&h; NEXUS Magazine, tel (07) 5442 9280; **NZ**—NZD\$45.00 (video), NZD\$n/a (audio); NEXUS Office, tel (09) 405 1963; **UK**—£16.00 (video), £8.00 (audio); NEXUS Office, tel 01342 322854; **Europe**—prices n/a; NEXUS Office, tel 0321 380558; **USA/Canada**—USD\$35.00 (video, NTSC), USD\$15.00 (audio), including airmail, from: E & E Productions, PO Box 444, Oaklands Park, SA 5046, Australia, tel/fax 011 61 8 8298 8449

- **Bob Grace**

*Bioenergetics: Our Body's Language*

A highly popular presentation from the developer of the Magnagraph unit.

- **Bruce Moen**

*Exploring More of the Afterlife*

A 90-minute presentation covering aspects of our multidimensional existence.

- **Cathy O'Brien & Mark Phillips**

*Mind Control*

Authors of *Tranceformation of America*, Cathy O'Brien and Mark Phillips reveal all.

- **Don Maisch**

*Mobile Phones & EMF Effects on Health*

Excellent presentation on the health effects of mobile phones, EM radiation and more.

- **Gaylon Ross**

*Conspiracy or Coincidence?*

With the author of *Who's Who of the Elite*.

- **Internet Security Specialists**

*Big Brother & the Internet*

Informative presentation on cybersecurity.

- **Jennifer Lawson**

*Global Weather Predictions*

With the author of *Violent Weather Predictions: 2000-2001*.

- **John Anthony West**

*Scientific Search for the Lost Civilisation*

A 90-minute presentation covering the controversy surrounding the dating of the Sphinx in Egypt, and much more.

*Exploring Symbolist Egypt*

A 150-minute workshop presentation which explores the sacred art, architecture and spirituality of ancient Egypt (2 tapes).

- **Duncan Roads**

*NEXUS in Perspective*

Due to the last-minute non-appearance of speaker David Morehouse, I gave a spontaneous talk about myself and NEXUS.

## PRODUCT

Reviewed by Duncan Roads

### ELANRA Portable Therapeutic Ioniser

From Bionic Products Pty Ltd

Price: AUD\$395.00 (inc. GST);

USD\$395.00 (includes shipping to USA)

Distributor: **Australia**—Bionic Products Pty Ltd, PO Box 555, Robina, Qld 4226, tel 1800 352 672 (toll free in Aust) or (07) 5593 1122, fax (07) 5593 0022, website [www.negativeions.com](http://www.negativeions.com)

This is actually the Elanra Mark III Portable Therapeutic Ioniser, and it is basically a smaller, improved version of the popular Mark II but designed for portability. As such, it has a battery life of four hours, and it can also be connected to the car's electrical system for use when driving.

Don't confuse this product with the old negative ion generators; these Elanra devices do work, and the manufacturer, Bionic Products, certainly goes to great lengths to provide substantiation for all health and technical claims. I noted with interest a glowing testimonial from the respected Dr Robert Beck, BSc, of blood electrification and "zapper" fame.

Reports from Japan, Hungary, the USA and the UK support findings that the build-up of positive ions inside vehicles can lead to loss of driver co-ordination, drowsiness, lack of concentration, etc. To test the effects of an Elanra Portable on driver fatigue, Bionic Products enlisted the help of a group of long-distance truck drivers. Each was supplied with an ioniser and asked to fill out a questionnaire. Not surprisingly, 87% reported an increased alertness while driving, 80% said they slept better and deeper during breaks (spent in the truck's cabin), and 93% of the drivers said their truck smelled cleaner and fresher.

I myself have used the previous version, the Mark II, continuously over the last three years and I can vouch for the beneficial effects. In fact, I take it with me whenever I have to spend time overnight in a hotel.

The portable unit is also designed with overseas travel in mind. It can run on mains electrical power anywhere in the world, with its own built-in power converter. It is very light and easy to carry and comes with 32 different settings, including one which automatically turns the ioniser on and off at five-minute intervals.

I have no hesitation in giving this product a glowing review. I also receive glowing reports from other users. It is the only product in this field about which I hear consistent positive feedback. If you spend lots of time driving, get one!





# REVIEWS

## MUSIC

Reviewed by Richard Giles

### HEAVEN'S DUST

by Ekova

Sony Music, France, 2000 (73mins)  
Distributor: **USA**—Six Degrees Records, tel (415) 626 6334, website [www.sixdegreesrecords.com](http://www.sixdegreesrecords.com)

Ekova is another exciting combination of the world genre and new musical experimentation. Dierdre Dubois, lead vocalist and also cellist and guitarist, has an improvised language of her own, and with Iranian percussionist Arach Khalatbari and Algerian lute player Mehdi Haddab has created a musical blend with inspired, wordless lyrics. Dierdre developed the style while singing alone—"just for the beauty of the music". *Heaven's Dust* is a magical improvisation of "the genetic material of...song", as Dierdre describes the mix of African, Celtic and Arabic. A mysteriously attractive album.

### WALKING ON

by the Ananda Shankar Experience and State of Bengal

Real World Records, 1999 (64mins)  
Distributors: **Aust**—EMI/Virgin, tel (02) 9908 0777; **UK**—Real World, tel 01225 744464; **USA**—Real World, tel (414) 861 8350, website [www.narada.com](http://www.narada.com)

In the late 1960s, the sound of sitar echoed through the pop music of San Francisco and the new wave of East-West inspiration. One of those pioneers was Ananda Shankar who, through his collaboration with Jimi Hendrix, became known across the USA. He returned to India in the 1970s and worked on uniting the two musics. In the 1990s his works resurfaced and, invited to Womad (UK), he and State of Bengal, a hip-hop Indian fusion band, produced amazing music. This is the recording of his last session as, sadly, he died in March 1999. Extraordinary, special, world sounds.

### SPRING SEA - MUSIC OF DREAMS

by Riley Lee and Marshall McGuire

ABC Classics, Australia, 2000 (54mins)  
Distributor: **Australia**—Universal Music Group, tel +61 2 9207 0500

Riley Lee is well known to Australian and international audiences for his exquisite shakuhachi flute playing. In his musical life he has collaborated with numerous instrumentalists, and here he teams up with Marshall McGuire on harp. Pieces include traditional Japanese compositions, a Benjamin Britten carol, Schubert's "Der Leiermann", and two from Australian com-

poser Anne Boyd. This sublime album is a unique connection of East and West.

### TIDES

by Peter Carolan

Warner Chappell, Sydney, Australia, 1999 (35mins)

Distributor: **Australia**—Peter Carolan Music, tel +61 2 9985 8098, website [www.softshore.com.au/carolan](http://www.softshore.com.au/carolan)

Australia's legendary world music forerunner, Gondwanaland, launched Peter Carolan on his career. He later went on to play with the Australian band Sirocco as well as work on Isao Tomita's "Sound Cloud" performance and with German filmmaker Wim Wenders. His new solo keyboard album is an ambient dedication to the powers of the waters of the planet, inspired by the ebb and flow of the Hawkesbury River near Sydney. The music meanders around the river's estuary and mangroves in a beautiful, nourishing, healing force of sound that immerses the listener in the eternal rhythms of nature. A celebratory album.

### ¡MO' VIDA!

by various Latin artists

Putumayo, USA, 2000 (41mins)  
Distributors: **Aust**—MRA Entertainment, tel (07) 3849 6020; **USA**—Putumayo World Music, tel 1888.788.8629, website [www.putumayo.com](http://www.putumayo.com)

Latin music has made a huge comeback in the popular world music scene, and this album from Putumayo combines all that's new and exciting in today's styles. Selections of salsa, Cuban hip-hop, boogaloo and salsa-rap come from greats such as: Los Mocosos, a Latin groove band; King Changó, a Venezuelan rock-funk-Latin combo; Xiomara Fortuna, with her Afro-Dominican style; Orishas, with a Cuban rap beat; Ricardo Lemvo and Makina Loca with their African-Latin dance sound; and much more. Dancing hips party music!

